

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 SS-20 NSC-10 H-03 IO-14

OIC-04 AEC-11 AECE-00 OMB-01 DRC-01 /149 W

----- 112816

O P 131523Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 552

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO ALL MBFR MISSIONS PRIORITY 25

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 9374

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: BULGARIAN STATEMENT, NOVEMBER 13,
1973 PLENARY

FROM US REP MBFR

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: TEXT OF STATEMENT (UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION) OF
THE BULGARIAN REP (DICHEV) AT 13 NOVEMBER PLENARY FOLLOWS. END
SUMMARY.

BEGIN TEXT.

MR. CHAIRMAN,
GENTLEMEN,

AT OUR PLENARY MEETING ON NOVEMBER 8 AMBASSADOR C. N.
KHLESTOV, DISTINGUISHED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SOVIET UNION, SUBMITTED
TO THE CONSIDERATION OF THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS
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ON BEHALF OF

CZECHOSLOVAKIA, THE GDR, POLAND AND THE USSR THE DRAFT AGREEMENT ON THE REDUCTION OF ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE. THE BULGARIAN DELEGATION WOULD LIKE TO EMPHASIZE THAT THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA ENTIRELY SUPPORT THIS DRAFT AGREEMENT WHICH IN A CONCRETE AND CONSTRUCTIVE FORM DEVELOPS THE AGREED PRINCIPLE POSITION OF THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES SET FORTH BY THEM IN THE DECLARATION ON PEACE, SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE ADOPTED AT THE CONFERENCE OF THE POLITICAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE WARSAW TREATY COUNTRIES IN PRAGUE ON JANUARY 26, 1972, AS WELL AS IN OTHER JOINT DOCUMENTS.

WE BELIEVE THAT THE SUBMITTED DRAFT AGREEMENT IS THE MANIFESTATION OF A BUSINESSLIKE SERIOUS APPROACH OF THE SOCIALIST STATES AND THAT IT ANSWERS IN THE BEST WAY THE TASK OF ENSURING THE SUCCESS OF OUR TALKS. THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROPOSALS IT CONTAINS WILL PERMIT, IN OUR VIEW, TO ACHIEVE THE MAIN GOAL AHEAD OF US, NAMELY, TO CARRY OUT THE REDUCTION OF BOTH FOREIGN AND NATIONAL ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS STATIONED ON THE TERRITORIES OF BELGIUM, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, THE GDR, THE FRG, LUXEMBOURG, THE NETHERLANDS AND POLAND.

AS THE REPRESENTATIVE OF A STATE, PARTICIPATING IN VIENNA NEGOTIATIONS WITH A SPECIAL STATUS, I.E. THE STATE, FORCES AND ARMAMENTS OF WHICH WILL NOT BE COVERED BY THE REDUCTIONS, I WOULD LIKE TO DRAW ATTENTION OF MY DISTINGUISHED COLLEAGUES TO AN IMPORTANT THESIS OF THE PREAMBLE OF THE DRAFT AGREEMENT. IT IS - I CITE - THAT "THE MEASURES TO BE TAKEN IN CENTRAL EUROPE UNDER THE PRESENT AGREEMENT ARE IN NO WAY DIRECTED AGAINST ANY OTHER COUNTRIES AND THEIR SECURITY INTERESTS".

ACHIEVEMENT OF THIS OBJECTIVE IS ENSURED BY THE FACT THAT THE REDUCTION OF FORCES AND ARMAMENTS PROPOSED IN THE DRAFT AGREEMENT OF THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES IS BASED ON THE STRICT OBSERVANCE OF THE PRINCIPLE OF UNDIMINISHED SECURITY FOR ANY PARTY. AND THAT IS EXACTLY WHY THE DRAFT AGREEMENT OF THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES OPENS THE REAL WAY FOR THE REALIZATION OF GENUINE MILITARY DETENTE IN EUROPE. THE REDUCTION OF MANPOWER AND QUANTITY OF ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE WOULD DECREASE THE LEVEL OF THE MILITARY CONFRONTATION IN THIS REGION AND WOULD BE AN IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE STRENGTHENING OF CONFIDENTIAL

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SECURITY NOT ONLY IN CENTRAL EUROPE BUT ALSO IN OTHER REGIONS OF THE EUROPEAN CONTINENT, INCLUDING THE BALKANS. IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THE LESSENING OF THE DANGER OF WAR AND TRANSFORMATION OF OUR CONTINENT INTO A REGION OF DURABLE PEACE AND CO-OPERATION MEETS THE INTERESTS OF ALL THE EUROPEAN PEOPLES.

THE BULGARIAN DELEGATION CONSIDERS IT TO BE PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT THAT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PRACTICAL MEASURES ON THE

REDUCTION OF FORCES AND ARMAMENTS ENVISAGED BY THE DRAFT AGREEMENT OF THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES WOULD NOT GIVE UNILATERAL MILITARY ADVANTAGES TO ANY PARTY AND WOULD NOT UPSET THE EXISTING BALANCE OF POWER IN CENTRAL EUROPE AND ON THE EUROPEAN CONTINENT IN GENERAL . WE ARE CONVINCED THAT SUCH AN APPROACH PROVIDES FOR THE STRENGTHENING OF SECURITY AT LOWER LEVELS OF FORCES AND ARMAMENTS NOT ONLY FOR THE STATES PARTICIPATING IN VIENNA NEGOTIATIONS, BUT FOR ALL EUROPEAN NATIONS. NATURALLY, AMONG THEM ARE THE PARTICIPANTS WITH A SPECIAL STATUS, NECESSITY TO ENSURE THE SECURITY OF WHICH WAS REFERED TO IN THE STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR DOUNTAS, DISTINGUISHED REPRESENTATIVE OF GREECE ON NOVEMBER 6.

THE ATTEMPTS TO CHANGE THE ESTABLISHED BALANCE OF POWER AS A RESULT OF THE REDUCTION OF FORCES AND ARMAMENTS WOULD WOULD MAKE THE WHOLE PROBLEM NO MORE THAN A SUBJECT OF FRUITLESS DEBATES. VIOLATION OF THIS PRINCIPLE COULD CREATE A SITUATION IN EUROPE WHICH WOULD GIVE A RISE TO SUSPICIOUSNESS AND DISTRUST, AND THIS WOULD CONTRIBUTE NOT TO THE STRENGTHENING OF THE FOUNDATIONS OF SECURITY AND STABILITY BUT ON THE CONTRARY WOULD IMPAIR THEM.

I THINK THAT NONE OF THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS IS INTERESTED IN SUCH AN OUTCOME OF OUR WORK. THE BULGARIAN DELEGATION IS STRIVING TO SEE THE RESULTS OF VIENNA NEGOTIATIONS ON THE REDUCTION OF FORCES AND ARMAMENTS CONTRIBUTING TO THE DEEPENING OF THE DETENTE PROCESS AND TO THE FURTHER IMPROVEMENT OF THE POLITICAL CLIMATE ON THE EUROPEAN CONTINENT.

THE IMPORTANT PROVISION OF THE DRAFT AGREEMENT OF THE SOCIALIST STATES, IN THE OPINION OF THE BULGARIAN DELEGATION IS THE FACT THAT THIS DRAFT AGREEMENT PROVIDES FOR THE REDUCTION OF FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE IN TOTAL, INCLUDING

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THE NUCLEAR WEAPONS. ONLY SUCH AN APPROACH IS CONSISTENT WITH THE PRINCIPLE OF UNDIMINISHED SECURITY FOR ANY PARTY. THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE NEGOTIATIONS ON THE REDUCTION OF FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE. AS IT WAS EMPHASIZED IN THE COMMUNIQUE ON THE RECENT VISIT TO MOSCOW OF TODOR ZHIVKOV, FIRST SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE BCP, PRESIDENT OF THE STATE COUNCIL OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA, THESE NEGOTIATIONS ARE ENTITLED TO PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN BRINGING ABOUT MILITARY DETENTE ON THE EUROPEAN CONTINENT. THE BULGAIKAN DELEGATION IS READY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE IMPORTANT GOAL FACING US.
END TEXT.HUMES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGREEMENT DRAFT, MUTUAL FORCE REDUCTIONS, MEETING DELEGATIONS, PEACE TALKS, NEGOTIATIONS, INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING FORCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973VIENNA09374
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: VIENNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731136/aaaabaax.tel
Line Count: 167
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ACDA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28-Aug-2001 by smithrj>; APPROVED <31-Oct-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: BULGARIAN STATEMENT, NOVEMBER 13, 1973 PLENARY
TAGS: PARM, NATO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005